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The SPECTATOR.

Militiæ Species Amor eſt.——— Ovid.

MONDAY, *July* 12. 1714.

AS my Correſpondents begin to grow pretty numerous, I think my ſelf obliged to take ſome Notice of them, and ſhall therefore make this Paper a Miſcellany of Letters. I have, ſince my reaſſuming the Office of SPECTATOR, received abundance of Epiſtles from Gentlemen of the Blade, who, I find, have been ſo uſed to Action that they know not how to lie ſtill: They ſeem generally to be of Opinion, that the Fair at home ought to reward them for their Services abroad, and that, till the Cauſe of their Country calls them again into the Field, they have a ſort of Right to Quarter themſelves upon the Ladies. In order to favour their Approaches, I am deſired by ſome to enlarge upon the Accompliſhments of their Profeſſion, and by others to give them my Advice in the carrying on of their Attacks. But let us hear what the Gentlemen ſay for themſelves.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

'THO' it may look ſomewhat perverſe, amidſt 'the Arts of Peace, to talk too much of 'War, it is but Gratitude to pay the laſt Office to 'its *Manes*, ſince even Peace it ſelf is, in ſome 'Meaſure, obliged to it for its Being.

'You have, in your former Papers, always re'commended the Accompliſhed to the Favour of 'the Fair; and, I hope, you will allow me to re'preſent ſome part of a Military Life not altoge'ther unneceſſary to the forming a Gentleman. I 'need not tell you that in *France*, whoſe Faſhions 'we have been formerly ſo fond of, almoſt every 'one derives his Pretences to Merit from the Sword; 'and that a Man has ſcarce the Face to make his 'Court to a Lady, without ſome Credentials from 'the Service to recommend him. As the Profeſſion 'is very ancient, we have reaſon to think ſome 'of the greateſt Men, among the old *Romans*, de'rived many of their Virtues from it, their Com'manders being frequently, in other Reſpects, 'ſome of the moſt ſhining Characters of the Age.

'The Army not only gives a Man Opportuni'ties of exerciſing thoſe two great Virtues *Pati'ence* and *Courage*, but often produces them in 'Minds where they had ſcarce any footing before. 'I muſt add, that it is one of the beſt Schools in the 'World to receive a general Notion of Mankind 'in, and a certain Freedom of Behaviour, which 'is not ſo eaſily acquired in any other Place. At 'the ſame time I muſt own, that ſome Military 'Airs are pretty extraordinary, and that a Man, 'who goes into the Army a Coxcomb, will come 'out of it a ſort of Publick Nuiſance: But a Man of 'Senſe, or one who before had not been ſufficiently 'uſed to a mixed Converſation, generally takes the 'true Turn. The Court has in all Ages been allowed 'to be the Standard of Good-breeding; and, I be'lieve, there is not a juſter Obſervation in Mon'ſieur *Rochefoucault*, than that *A Man, who has 'been bred up wholly to Buſineſs, can never get 'the Air of a Courtier at Court, but will 'immediately catch it in the Camp.* The Rea'ſon of this moſt certainly is, that The very 'Eſſence of Good-breeding and Politeneſs con'ſiſts in ſeveral Niceties, which are ſo mi'nute that they eſcape his Obſervation, and he falls 'ſhort of the Original he would copy after; but 'when he ſees the ſame things charged and aggra'vated to a Fault, he no ſooner endeavours to come 'up to the Pattern which is ſet before him, than, 'tho' he ſtops ſomewhat ſhort of that, he natural'ly reſts where in reality he ought. I was, two 'or three Days ago, mightily pleaſed with the Ob'ſervation of an humorous Gentleman upon one

'of

'of his Friends, who was in other Reſpects every 'way an accompliſhed Perſon, that *He wanted no-'thing but a Daſh of the Coxcomb in him*; by which 'he underſtood a little of that Alertneſs and Un-'concern in the common Actions of Life, which 'is uſually ſo viſible among Gentlemen of the Ar-'my, and which a Campaign or two would in-'fallibly have given him.

'You will eaſily gueſs, Sir, by this my Panegy-'rick upon a Military Education, that I am my 'ſelf a Soldier, and indeed I am ſo; I remember, 'within three Years after I had been in the Army, 'I was ordered into the Country a Recruiting. I 'had very particular Succeſs in this part of the 'Service, and was over and above aſſured, at my 'going away, that I might have taken a young La-'dy, who was the moſt conſiderable Fortune in 'the County, along with me. I preferred the Pur-'ſuit of Fame at that time to all other Conſi-'derations, and tho' I was not abſolutely bent on 'a Wooden Leg, reſolved at leaſt to get a Scar or 'two for the good of *Europe*. I have at preſent 'as much as I deſire of this Sort of Honour, and 'if you could recommend me effectually, ſhould 'be well enough contented to paſs the Remainder 'of my Days in the Arms of ſome dear kind Creature, 'and upon a pretty Eſtate in the Country: This, as 'I take it, would be following the Example of '*Lucius Cincinnatus*, the Old *Roman* Dictator, 'who at the end of a War left the Camp to fol-'low the Plow. I am, Sir, with all imaginable 'Reſpect,

Your moſt Obedient,

Humble Servant,

Will. Warly.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

'I Am an Half-pay Officer, and am at preſent 'with a Friend in the Country. Here is a 'rich Widow in the Neighbourhood, who has 'made Fools of all the Fox-hunters within fifty 'Miles of her. She declares ſhe intends to marry, 'but has not yet been asked by the Man ſhe could 'like. She uſually admits her humble Admirers 'to an Audience or two, but after ſhe has once 'given them Denial will never ſee them more. I 'am aſſured, by a Female Relation, that I ſhall 'have fair Play at her; but as my whole Succeſs 'depends on my firſt Approaches, I deſire your 'Advice, whether I had beſt *Storm* or proceed 'by way of *Sap*.

I am, SIR,

Yours, &c.

P. S. 'I had forgot to tell you, that I have 'already carried one of her Out-works, that is, 'ſecured her Maid.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

'I Have aſſiſted in ſeveral Sieges in the *Low-'Countries*, and being ſtill willing to employ 'my Talents, as a Soldier and Engineer, I lay down 'this Morning at Seven a Clock before the Door 'of an obſtinate Female, who had for ſome 'time refuſed me Admittance. I made a Lodg-'ment in an outer Parlour about Twelve: The E-'nemy retired to her Bed-Chamber, yet I ſtill 'purſued, and about two a Clock this Afternoon 'ſhe thought fit to Capitulate. Her Demands are 'indeed ſomewhat high, in Relation to the 'Settlement of her Fortune. But being in Poſſeſ-'ſion of the Houſe I intend to inſiſt upon *Carte 'Blanche*, and am in hopes by keeping off all o-'ther Pretenders for the Space of twenty four 'Hours, to ſtarve her into a Compliance. I beg 'your ſpeedy Advice, and am,

SIR, Yours, Peter Puſh.

From my Camp in *Red-Lion* Square, *Saturday* 4 in the Afternoon.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

To Morrow will be Publiſh'd,

Verſes at the laſt Publick Commencement at Cambridge. Written and ſpoken by Mr. Eulden. Printed for Jacob Tonſon at Shakeſpear's Head over-againſt Catherine-ſtreet in the Strand, price 6 d.

This Week will be Publiſhed,

A new Method for Diſcovery of the Longitude both by Sea and Land. By W. Whiſton, M. A. ſometime Profeſſor of the Mathematicks in the Univerſity of Cambridge and H. Ditton, Maſter of the New Mathematick School in Chriſt's Hoſpital, London. Which Method has been ſo far approved by this preſent Parliament, that they have paſſed an Act, ordering 20000 l. Reward for ſuch a Diſcovery. Printed for John Phillips at the Black Bull in Cornhill. Price One Shilling.

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This Day is Publiſh'd,

The Third Edition of A Conference on the Doctrine of Tranſubſtantiation, between His Grace the Duke of Buckingham and an Iriſh Jeſuit. Printed for Ferd. Burleigh in Amen-Corner, and A. Dod at the Peacock without Temple-Bar, price 4 d. And this Week will be Publiſh'd, The Works of the Duke of Buckingham, in 2 Vols. being a compleat Collection of his Plays and Comedies that were acted, and thoſe deſigned for the Stage, from the Original M. S. The whole adorn'd with Cuts, price 10 s. Printed for Sam. Briſcoe.

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